

# The ũnchangeable Resolutions of the Free-men of England.

**W**Hereas amongst other the ancient Rights and Freedoms of this Nation, it is declared in the *Grand Charter* of the liberty of England, cap. 29. *That no Free-man shall be taken, or imprisoned, or be disseiz'd of his Free-hold, or Liberties, or Free Customes; or be outlaw'd, or exil'd, or any other way destroyed; Nor any Sentence passe upon him, nor condemn'd but by lawfull Iudgment of his Peers, or by the Law of the land: And that justice, or right, shall be sold, deny'd, or deferr'd, to no man: Which said Charter (obtain'd by the vast expence of the wealth and blood of this most puissant Nation) hath been confirm'd by two and thirty severall Acts of the Free Parliaments of England; explain'd, and enlarg'd, in the Petition of Right, 3. Car'. From time to time asserted by this present Parliament, as the onely foundation of all Government; and ever heretofore entrusted, and of late frequently avowed to be maintained accordingly (and so secured, cannot be altered) by all the Power and Authority of the whole Kingdome of England: But nevertheless for the advancement of self-ends, hath been, and at present is invaded; the ordinary course of Justice obstructed, or partially dispensed; Our Possessions every day more and more seiz'd on, surcharg'd, and drain'd; till at last this whole Nation do become a prey to the avarice and ambition of a prevailing Faction; whose unsetled condition, (notwithstanding all pretences of easing our present grievances, wherewith we have heretofore been too frequently deluded) cannot possibly subsist, but by the exercise of a boundlesse power over the people, and their proper interests:*

*We, the Freemen of England, (deeply sensible of the premises; and having nothing before our eyes, but the fear of God, the honour of our Country, the love of our own, and of the safety of our posterities; and a fervent desire, that Truth and Peace may be settled amongst us; Not reflecting upon the particular designs, of any self-ended party; Nor fearing, or suspecting, the rage, or power of any adversaries whatsoever; (so regardlesse of themselves, as to draw upon their own souls, the guilt of innocent blood; so ignoble in spirit, and prodigious to nature, as to neglect or betray the known Interests of our common birth-right, or so unthankfull to us, as to oppose, envy, or dislike the services and hazards which we shall willingly undergo for the vindication and defence of the Liberties of our Country; Nor doubting the assistance of any true-hearted English man; which they naturally owe, and have generally avowed (in the Parliament Protestation, Oath of Association, and Nationall Covenant) to contribute unto us, in this our self-defence; Nor dismay'd at any difficulties or dangers whatsoever, (unworthy in matters of this concernment to be look'd upon) confidently relying upon the Justice and mercy of Almighty God, and the sincerity and Zeal of our just intentions herein; and well knowing, that all pretence of Conquest, and Arbitrary Jurisdiction (however obtain'd, and wheresoever lodg'd) is utterly destructive to propriety, and the common Interest, (which can never be secur'd but by the supream Justice of a standing law) the fayler of all other means, and the exigency of our condition, requiring the same) are now at last unchangeably resolv'd, with the hazard of our lives and fortunes, clearly to shake off the yoke of our present bondage, and to sacrifice our selves, and all that is dear unto us, with all chearfulnesse of heart,*

For the Right and Liberties of the Free-men of ENGLAND.

In reference whereunto,

1. **T**hese Resolutions, with the Petition of Right, are to be published throughout this Kingdome; and the People gain'd by the Gentry and Ministry to a right understanding of the same.
2. A competent Brigade of the most sufficient, faithfull, and moderate Military persons, are to embody themselves in every County as near as possibly they may at one time, who are not to violate or charge the Country.

Whose Office it must be,

1. To suppress all Force, and to put the whole power of the Land (man, woman, and child) into a posture of defence, against all opposition to the preceding resolutions: Some expedients being contrived for a mutuall intercourse of Intelligence, and assistance therein.
2. To remove all Oppressions and illegall Impositions, and to restore every Free-man to his just rights and Liberties; all Offenders against the publick Interests, being remitted to the Law.

And for this end it is to be wished,

*That one or more Tribunals be thereupon erected within every County of this Dominion; who are to advise, in the premises; and finally to determine in matters of difference (without costs and delays of service) within their respective Divisions.*

F I N I S.